

## CLAIMS

We claim:

1 An apparatus for determining a dimension of an object traveling on a moving conveyor, the apparatus having means for moving a scanning beam across the conveyor such that the beam repeatedly intercepts the object at an angle  $\theta$  relative to a plane  
5 extending through the conveyor, the apparatus characterized by:

detecting means having a line field of view which maintains a constant orientation relative to the scanning beam as the beam moves across the conveyor and receives a reflected image of the beam at a plurality of image points; and

means for calculating the object dimension at each image point based upon the reflected images.

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